

Regional Prosperity Initiative Fiscal Year 2017: Relevant Boilerplate

The legislature included boilerplate language to guide the Regional Prosperity Initiative. This boilerplate section, Section 822f of 2016 Public Act 268, possesses many of the requirements of the program, with brief updated requirements for previous grant recipients, and gives the Department of Technology, Management and Budget the authority to implement an application process and method for grant distribution. The full text of this boilerplate section is as follows:

Sec. 822f. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the regional prosperity initiative are to be used as competitive grants to eligible regional planning organizations qualifying for funding as a regional prosperity collaborative, a regional prosperity council, or a regional prosperity board. A regional planning organization may not qualify for funding under more than 1 category in the same state fiscal year. As used in this section:

(a) "Eligible regional planning organization" means any of the following:

(i) An existing regional planning commission created pursuant to 1945 PA 281, MCL 125.11 to 125.25.

(ii) An existing regional economic development commission created pursuant to 1966 PA 46, MCL 125.1231 to 125.1237.

(iii) An existing metropolitan area council formed pursuant to the metropolitan councils act, 1989 PA 292, MCL 124.651 to 124.729.

(iv) A Michigan metropolitan planning organization established pursuant to the moving ahead for progress in the 21st century act, Public Law 112-141.

(b) "Freedom of information act" means the freedom of information act, 5 USC 552.

(c) "Open meetings act" means the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(d) "Regional prosperity board" means a regional body that has a singular governing board with representation from private, public, and nonprofit entities engaged in joint decision-making practices for the purpose of creating or maintaining a phase three: regional prosperity plan.

(e) "Regional prosperity collaborative" means any committee developed by a regional planning organization or a metropolitan planning organization that serves to bring organizational representation together from private, public, and nonprofit entities within a region for the purpose of creating or maintaining a phase one: regional prosperity plan.

(f) "Regional prosperity council" means a regional body with representation from private, public, and nonprofit entities with shared administrative services and an executive governing entity, as demonstrated by a formal local agreement or agreements for the purpose of creating or maintaining a phase two: regional prosperity plan.

(2) Regional planning organizations may qualify to receive not more than \$250,000.00 of incentive-based funding as a regional prosperity collaborative subject to meeting all of the following requirements:

(a) The regional prosperity collaborative has created a phase one: regional prosperity plan, as follows:

(i) The regional prosperity collaborative must include regional representatives from adult education, workforce development, community development, economic development, transportation, and higher education organizations.

(ii) The plan is required, at a minimum, to include a 5-year plan focused on economic growth and vitality for the region, as well as a performance dashboard and measurable annual goals to support the 5-year plan.

(iii) The 5-year plan shall address regional strategies related to adult education, workforce development, economic development, transportation, higher education, and business development.

(iv) The regional prosperity collaborative shall adopt the plan by a minimum 2/3 majority vote of its members.

(b) The regional prosperity collaborative adheres to accountability and transparency measures required in the open meetings act and the freedom of information act.

(c) The regional prosperity collaborative convenes monthly meetings, open to the public, to consider and discuss issues leading to a common vision of economic prosperity for the region, including, but not limited to, community development, economic development, talent, and infrastructure opportunities.

(d) The regional prosperity collaborative makes available on the grant recipient's publicly accessible Internet site pertinent documents, including, but not limited to, monthly meeting agendas, minutes of monthly meetings, voting records, and the regional prosperity plan and performance dashboard.

(e) The regional prosperity collaborative keeps a status report detailing the spending associated with previous regional prosperity initiative grants. Organizations that have successfully received grant awards in previous fiscal years shall be required to make available to the department and on a publicly accessible Internet site information regarding the use of those grant dollars.

(3) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a payment as a regional prosperity collaborative under subsection (2) may qualify to receive a 1-time grant of not more than \$75,000.00 to produce a plan to transform the regional prosperity collaborative into a regional prosperity council or regional prosperity board, including necessary local formal agreements, to make recommendations that eliminate duplicative efforts and administrative functions, and to leverage resources through cooperation, collaboration, and consolidations of organizations or programs throughout the region. Plans produced to transform the regional prosperity collaborative into a regional prosperity council or regional prosperity board shall be made available on the grant recipient's publicly accessible Internet site.

(4) Regional planning organizations may qualify to receive not more than \$375,000.00 of incentive-based funding as a regional prosperity council subject to meeting all of the following requirements:

(a) A regional prosperity council has been formed and includes regional representatives from adult education, workforce development, community development, economic development, transportation, and higher education organizations.

(b) An eligible regional prosperity council will demonstrate shared administrative services between 2 public regional entities included in subdivision (a). In addition, the council must have and maintain an executive governing entity, as demonstrated by a formal local agreement or agreements.

(c) The regional prosperity council has created a phase two: regional prosperity plan, as follows:

(i) The regional prosperity council shall identify opportunities for shared administrative services and decision-making among the private, public, and nonprofit entities within the region and shall continue collaboration with regional prosperity council members, including, but not limited to, representatives from adult education providers, workforce development agencies, community development agencies, economic development agencies, transportation service providers, and higher education institutions.

(ii) The plan is required to include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(A) A status report of the approved 5-year plan.

(B) The addition of a 10-year plan for the region which builds upon prior work and is focused on economic growth and vitality in the region.

(C) A prioritized list of regional projects.

(D) A performance dashboard with measurable annual goals.

(iii) The regional prosperity council shall adopt the plan by a minimum 2/3 vote of its members.

(d) The regional prosperity council adheres to accountability and transparency measures required in the open meetings act and the freedom of information act.

(e) The regional prosperity council convenes monthly meetings, open to the public, to consider and discuss issues leading to a common vision of economic prosperity for the region, including, but not limited to, community development, economic development, talent, and infrastructure opportunities.

(f) The regional prosperity council makes available on the grant recipient's publicly accessible Internet site pertinent documents, including, but not limited to, monthly meeting agendas, minutes of monthly meetings, voting records, and the regional prosperity plan and performance dashboard.

(g) The regional prosperity council keeps a status report detailing the spending associated with previous regional prosperity initiative grants. Organizations that have successfully received grant awards in previous fiscal years shall be required to make available to the department and on a publicly accessible Internet site information regarding the use of those grant dollars.

(5) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a payment as a regional prosperity council under subsection (4) may qualify to receive a 1-time grant of not more than \$75,000.00 to produce a plan to transform the regional prosperity council into a regional prosperity board, including a singular private/public governance structure that comports with federal guidelines for governance under the workforce investment act, Public Law 105-220, the moving ahead for progress in the 21st century act, Public Law 112-141, the economic development administration and Appalachian regional development reform act of 1998, Public Law 105-393, and recommendations to eliminate duplicative efforts, administrative functions, and leverage resources through cooperation, collaboration, and consolidations of organizations or programs throughout the region.

(6) Regional planning organizations may qualify to receive not more than \$500,000.00 of incentive-based funding as a regional prosperity board subject to meeting all of the following requirements:

(a) The regional prosperity board has been formed and, at a minimum, must demonstrate the consolidation of a regional metropolitan planning organization, where one exists, state designated regional planning agency boards, workforce development boards, and federally designated regional economic development districts within a region.

(b) The regional prosperity board has created a phase three: regional prosperity plan, as follows:

(i) The regional prosperity board shall create a regional services recommendations report prioritizing the list of state-funded services and programs provided to the region, and recommendations for state-regional partnerships to support the adopted regional prosperity plan.

(ii) The plan is required to include a status report of the approved 10-year plan for the creation of an updated regional prosperity plan.

(iii) The regional prosperity board shall adopt the plan by a minimum 2/3 vote of its members.

(c) The regional prosperity board adheres to accountability and transparency measures required in the open meetings act and the freedom of information act.

(d) The regional prosperity board convenes monthly meetings, open to the public, to consider and discuss issues leading to a common vision of economic prosperity for the region, including, but not limited to, community development, economic development, talent, and infrastructure opportunities.

(e) The regional prosperity board makes available on the grant recipient's publicly accessible Internet site pertinent documents, including, but not limited to, monthly meeting agendas, minutes of monthly meetings, voting records, and the regional prosperity plan and performance dashboard.

(7) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a payment as a regional prosperity board under subsection (6) may qualify to receive not more than \$125,000.00, to implement the prioritized regional prosperity plan projects.

(8) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a payment as a regional prosperity collaborative, board, or council may partner with other eligible regional planning organizations to submit joint applications. In the instance of a joint application, 1 regional planning organization shall be utilized as the overall applicant. The department may award a joint application award of no greater than the sum of potential

application dollars which would have otherwise been available through individual applications.

(9) The department shall develop an application process and method of grant distribution for the regional prosperity initiative. Funding applications from regional planning organizations shall be due to the department by December 1, 2016. The department shall notify regional planning organizations of grant application status by January 1, 2017. The department shall ensure that processes are established to verify that qualifying regional planning organizations meet the requirements under subsections (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7), as applicable.

(10) Unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the regional prosperity initiative are designated as work project appropriations, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and shall be available for expenditure for regional prosperity initiative projects under this section until the projects have been completed. The following is in compliance with section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

- (a) The purpose of the projects is to provide incentive-based grants to recipients under this section.
- (b) The projects will be accomplished by grants to qualified regional planning organizations.
- (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is \$2,500,000.00.
- (d) The estimated completion date is September 30, 2021.